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SOURCE      Narodno Delo.STATE PUSHES DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING

State-controlled fish breeding and fishing were established in 1948. The essential aim of the new state organization includes: creating new projects, expanding fish breeding and fish hatching in rice fields, ponds, dam areas, and streams, as well as activating and developing deep-sea fishing.

The new fishing cooperatives have been joined by the most efficient and experienced fishermen throughout the country, who have contributed all their equipment and technical knowledge to the organizations.

It is felt, however, that the latter are still in need of more modern equipment and transport craft. Neither can be supplied by imports. Another difficulty consists in recruiting a sufficient number of crew members to man the groups. However, the private sector is making every effort to defend its old privileges and is waging a malicious campaign against the new organization.

Despite all these handicaps, the 1949 fishing campaign was successful, and the spring and fall seasonal operations were started on schedule. Unfortunately, fall fishing was interrupted by storms which lasted until November. Furthermore, mackerel for drying and pickling were absent in spring, and pilchards failed to appear in the fall. This produced an additional hardship, since these two kinds of fish are the normal basis of Bulgarian fishing. Mackerel were very late, and the fishing had to be done in December.

These unfavorable conditions also affected the Stalin area and resulted in the nonfulfillment of the yearly plan, which was met as follows: pond fish, 80 percent; flat fish, 87 percent; dragnet fishing, 50 percent; dolphin fishing, 81 percent; lake fish, 73 percent; net fishing, 85 percent.

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Some of the unfavorable tendencies noticed among the crews during the last year included: lack of discipline, alcoholism, malingering, etc. The administration is successfully combating these shortcomings, but there is still a great need for better educational work. A meeting of the administration, party, and trade-union agencies passed various resolutions to improve the standards of fishing crews by reading of daily newspapers, listening to radio broadcasts, establishing libraries, reading rooms, etc.

Experiments with the new fishing methods widely used in the USSR, such as dolphin fishing by net and fishing with lamps, have been successful and will be further improved during coming seasons. Experiments in fishing with electricity have not been carried out correctly, and the results cannot be accurately estimated.

Competitive work and the assistance of the party and trade unions must strengthen the organization and improve the work.

The Stalin Net Group No 5 brought in 7,500 kilograms of mackerel in one catch and fulfilled 70 percent of the seasonal plan during the competition held to celebrate Stalin's birthday. Fishing brigades throughout the country have joined other work groups in pledging to fulfill the yearly plan in 10½ months, and they are ambitious to meet the Five-Year Plan in 4 years. They will also see that fish becomes a food available to every worker in Bulgaria.

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